

With gas prices continuing an upsetting upward trajectory, the President has tried to deflect criticism by taking credit for an increase in domestic oil production. The facts are this: it is the significant increase in energy production on state and private lands that is largely responsible for the recent boost in oil production. Production on federal lands has dropped from 32 percent in 2000 to 19 percent in 2010. We are paying the price for such inactivity every time we pull up to the pump.

I have worked to pass bipartisan legislation promoting job creation and increased domestic energy production to lower energy prices and secure America's energy independence. The Administration, on the other hand continues to deny the development of American energy resources – such as oil shale and new refinery facilities – while refusing the Keystone XL pipeline. We are a country that can stand on our own two feet by utilizing American resources and the resources of our trusted northern neighbor. For more on how our nation can be energy independent, [click here](#).